



THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE
PROTECTION
of Fur-Bearing Animals

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Fur Farm Bans

United Kingdom

Fur farming was banned in England and Wales in 2000. At second reading, the ban in England and Wales was justified principally on grounds of public morality. Prior to the ban, there had been 11 fur farms in the UK. While the last fur farm in Scotland had closed in 1993, the Scottish Parliament nevertheless banned fur farming in 2002. (See: Fur Farming (Prohibition) Act 2000 and Fur Farming (Prohibition) (Scotland) Act 2002).

Austria

In Austria, six of the nine federal states have banned fur farming and in the remaining three there are such strict welfare regulations, in relation to the availability of swimming water, that fur farming is no longer economically viable.

Republic of Ireland

In the Republic of Ireland there are currently five fur farms in operation. These farms focus mainly on the trade of mink fur (some farms which have used fox fur are currently winding down operation as such trade is no longer economically viable). As of October 2009, there are discussions within the political sphere demanding for the out-right ban of fur farms and fur trade in the Republic of Ireland. Many animal welfare groups have speculated that fur farms should begin to be phased out from now until 2012 under a new animal welfare act.

Netherlands

In June 2010 a new law was passed in the Netherlands that will ban farming mink for their fur. The nearly 170 mink farms in the country will have to cease their operations by 2024. Fur farming was already banned for other animals, such as foxes and chinchillas.